THE SEVERAL ACTS OF PARLIAMENT

MADE

For Eſtabliſhing, Ordering and Collecting of his Majeſties Revenue ariſing

BY

HEARTH-MONEY:

Abſtracted alſo in an INDEX,

AND

Margented accordingly,

For the benefit of ſuch perſons as are or may be concerned therein.

In the *Savoy*,

Printed by the Aſſigns of *John Bill* and *Chriſtopher Barker*, Printers to the King moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1668.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

An Abſtract

OF THE

Acts contained in this Book.

First Act,

Anno xiiij° Caroli II. Regis.

From the 25 of *March* 1662. Every houſe, &c. in *England* and *Wales*, ſhall be chargable with the Annual payment of Two ſhillings for every Fire-hearth, &c. within every ſuch houſe, &c. *pag.* 3

Payable at *Michaelmas*, and *Lady*-day by equal portions.

Every Occupier ſhall deliver a juſt accompt of his Fire-hearths, &c. to the Conſtables, &c. within ſix days after notice. 4

The Conſtables, &c. ſhall require ſuch an Accompt by the laſt day of *May*, 1662. 5

Such Accompts ſhall be in writing under the hands of the Occupiers.

Notice ſhall be fixed to the doors of empty houſes. 6

The

The Conſtables, &c. ſhall enter into all houſes, &c. and compare the Accompts.

And ſhall take information by their own view, where no Accompt is delivered.

The Conſtables, &c. ſhall forfeit five pounds for every weeks neglect.

Forty ſhillings ſhall be forfeited for every falſe return. 7

The Conſtables, &c. ſhall deliver their Accompts to the Juſtices of the Peace, at the next Quarter-Seſſions after the ſaid laſt of *May*;

With the names of ſuch perſons as have not given in their Accompts. 8

The Juſtices ſhall cauſe ſuch Accompts to be inrolled by the Clerk of the Peace,

And a Duplicate thereof (ſigned by three Juſtices) ſhall be returned into the Exchequer within one moneth.

The Clerk of the Peace ſhall forfeit Two hundred pounds for the firſt moneths neglect. 9

And for the ſecond, he ſhall loſe his place.

The Officers ſhall Collect the moneys within ſix days after due. 10

They ſhall give Acquittances freely,

And ſuch Acquittances ſhall be a full diſcharge. 11

The Collectors (upon non-payment) ſhall levy the ſame by diſtreſs and ſale of goods,

Rendring the overplus, charges deducted.

The Collectors ſhall (within twenty days after due) pay the money to the High Conſtables. 12

The High Conſtables ſhall give the Collectors Acquittances, and allow them two pence in the pound for Collecting.

The Collectors ſhall deliver to the High Conſtables, the names of the perſons who have paid,

With the names of ſuch as have not paid, where no diſtreſs can be had. 13

The High Conſtables (within ten days after their receipt) ſhall pay the moneys to the High Sheriffs,

Deducting one peny in the pound for their pains.

They ſhall deliver alſo the Returns they received from the Collectors.

The Sheriffs (within thirty days) ſhall return the moneys into the Exchequer,

With the Defaulters names not diſtrainable; 14

Deducting fourpence in the pound, *viz.* three pence for themſelves, and one peny for the Clerk of the Peace.

High Sheriffs of Cities or Towns, being Counties of themſelves, are made Collectors, *&c.* 15

Conſtables, *&c.* in ſuch places ſhall deliver Duplicates to ſuch Sheriffs.

Such Sheriffs ſhall levy the duty, and give Acquittances without Fees. 16

And ſhall (within fourty days after due)

due) return the money into the Exchequer, with the names of persons not distrainable,

Deducting three pence in the pound for themselves, and one peny for the Clerk of the Peace. 17

The Exchequer-Officers shall discharge persons without Fees,

And shall issue out Process against Defaulters, &c.

The Revenues of this Act shall be paid duly into the Exchequer, and shall not be charged with any Gift or Grant, &c. 18

All such Grants, &c. shall be void, and the Grantees shall be made Accomptants, &c.

All persons acting herein, shall be Indemnified, 19

And shall recover treble Costs, if molested.

Increase or decrease of such Hearths, &c. shall be made in form aforesaid, 20

And the Occupiers shall be charged or discharged accordingly.

No person shall be accomptable for any Arrears, unless put in Suit within two years:

Be brought to a Judgment within four years, and the duty levied within five years from the time due.

No person exempted (by reason of poverty) from payments to the Church and Poor, shall be chargable by this Act, &c. 21

Certificates may be given by the Churchwardens and Overseers for the Poor, with the Minister, &c. 22

Upon such Certificates (allowed by the two next Justices of the Peace) persons shall not be returned.

And such house, &c. shall be discharged. 23

Persons procuring or accepting any Pension, &c. out of this Revenue, shall forfeit double the value;

The one moyety to the Poor, and the other to the party Suing. 24

No Blowing-house, &c. shall be charged by this Act,

Nor any Hearth within the Scite of any Hospital, &c.

The payments shall be charged upon the Occupiers only. 25

No person Indebted for the Duties of this Act, shall be thereby priviledged to Sue another in the Exchequer, &c. 26

Second Act,

Anno xv° Caroli II. Regis.

THe Justices of Peace at the next v Sessions after *Michaelmas* 1663. shall issue Warrants to the High Constables, &c. 28

Who shall issue like Warrants to the Petty Constables, &c.

Requiring them (the next Sunday after Morning Service) to give publick notice

notice in the Church, &c.

And particular notice to every Occupier of any house, &c. within their Precincts,

That (within ten days) they give to them a just Accompt of all Houses, &c. 29

The Constables, &c. shall (upon Receipt thereof) with two other Inhabitants enter into all Houses, &c.

And shall compare and examine the truth of such Accompts, and Endorse them according to view,

And transmit them (within twenty days after Receipt) to the High Constables &c.

Together with a Book or Roll with two Columnes; 30

The one with the names of the Persons and Hearths, &c. chargable in their possessions.

The other of Persons and Hearths, &c. not chargable.

The High Constables, &c. shall compare, and (within six days after Receipt) transmit them to the two next Justices of Peace,

Who shall examine the said High Constables, &c. upon Oath concerning the truth of their Actings. 31

The said Justices shall (within ten days after examination) Sign and transmit such Accompts to the Clerk of the Peace.

The Clerk of the Peace (within twenty days) shall Engross the said Book or Roll, &c.

And

And (within two moneths) Engross a Duplicate thereof.

Which Signed by him and two Justices, &c. (shall be transmitted (within one moneth) into the Exchequer. 32

Every Occupier not given in (or omitting any Hearth, &c. in) his Accompt, shall forfeit Fourty shillings for every such Omission.

The Constables, &c. neglecting their Duty, shall forfeit for every offence Five pound. 33

Every High Constable, &c. neglecting his Duty, shall forfeit for each offence Ten pound.

Which forfeitures shall be recovered by Action of Debt, &c. 34

The changing of Annual Officers shall not Excuse or Disable them from Collecting, &c. any the Revenues payable, &c. 35

Every person appointed by the Acts to Collect, &c. shall forfeit Twenty shillings for every weeks neglect of his Duty.

Any Officer (by the Acts enabled to Enter and Distrain) may call to his Ayd two other inhabitants, &c. 36

All Sheriffs made Collectors may Execute by their Deputies. 37

The Officers of Inns of Court, &c. shall do all things as the Constables, &c. under like penalties, and without Warrant from the Justices.

And Occupiers there shall do all things under like Penalties as Occupiers elsewhere. 38

The High Bayliff of *Westminster*, &c. may (after the Twenty eighth of *September* 1663) put the Powers of the Acts in Execution, &c.

And shall be subject to the same Penalties, and receive the same Reward as other, &c.

The Sheriff of *Middlesex* is Discharged from Acting in *Westminster*, save about Arrears onely. 39

The Constables, &c, of *Westminster* shall deliver their Accompts to the said Bayliff.

The Bayliff of *Southwark* may Execute like Powers, &c. 40

He shall be subject to like Penalties, and may receive like Reward, &c.

The Sheriff of [illegible] discharged, &c.

The Constables, &c. of *Southwark* shall deliver their Accomps to the said Bayliff. 41

The Lord Treasurer, and Chancellour of the Exchequer may make further Allowance to the Clerks of the Peace, not exceeding one peny in the pound. 42

Third Act.

Anno xvi° Caroli II. Regis.

THe Kings Majesty, &c. may appoint Officers to Receive and Answer the Duty arising by Fire-hearths, &c. 49

And for viewing and numbring the said

ſaid Hearths, &c. and inſpecting the Returns thereof made, & to be made,

And to examine the Rolls, &c. returned into the Exchequer.

And with a Conſtable, &c. (or without where none) to enter into any Houſe, &c. 50

And ſearch, if their be any more Fire-hearths, &c.

And what are increaſed, and what decreaſed, &c.

And to make like ſearch once every year.

If they ſhall find any Variance, they ſhall Certifie the ſame to the Clerk of the Peace. 51

Which being approved by the Juſtices at their Seſſions ſhall be tranſmitted into the Exchequer.

Such Officers ſhall Collect the Duty from the 24 of *June* 1664.

The Duty ſhall be paid (when due) upon demand thereof at the Houſe, &c. 52

In default of payment one hour after Demand, the Duty may be Levied by Diſtreſs and ſale of Goods. &c

Reſtoring the overplus, Charges deducted not exceeding one Moyety of the Duty. 53

None ſhall be charged, &c. for the Duty after it hath been due two years.

Nor for any old Arrears, after two years from the 24 of *June* 1664.

Oppoſition or Injury to any Officer, &c. ſhall be proved by Oath before a Juſtice

Juſtice of Peace. 54

Such Juſtice of Peace may imprison Offenders for the ſpace of one moneth.

After the 24 of *June* 1664. all Officers appointed to Collect the Duty by the former Acts, ſhall be diſcharged from Acting otherwiſe then by this Act. 55

The Officers ſo appointed ſhall pay the Duty into the Exchequer.

All Perſons to be imployed ſhall give ſecurity for the diſcharge of their Truſts,

And ſhall take a Corporal oath, &c. for the due Execution thereof. 56

They ſhall not demand any Fee, &c. under penalty of diſabling and rendering treble, &c.

They ſhall give Aquittances, which ſhall be final Diſcharges.

Upon removal of any Occupier, & before the half-year day, 57

The next Occupier ſhall be chargable with ſuch half-years Dues.

They that ſhall ſtop up, &c. any Hearth, &c. chargable, ſhall pay double the value of the Duty.

They that within one year paſt have (or hereafter ſhall) let the Lands, &c, formerly belonging to any houſe, &c. or ſhall divide any Houſe, or Let the ſame to Perſons exempted by the Acts, ſhall pay the Duty as they ought to have done before. 58

The Occupier of every Dwelling (not being an Alms-houſe) which hath more then two Chimneys, &c. in it,

ſhall

shall not be be exempted, &c. 59
Differences arising about Execution of this Act shall be determined by one or more Justices of Peace.
Collectors not paying in the Moneys received by them within three moneths after due, shall lose their Offices. 60
Justices of Peace, &c. are required to assist the Officers appointed to Collect the Duty.
No Persons producing a Certificate for their exemption, shall be questioned for any Arrears due, on or before *Lady-day* 1664. 61
Nor any Person who hath paid the Duty, and shall make proof thereof.
The Collectors appointed by this Act, &c. shall pay unto the Constables, &c. the Allowances made to them in any of the former Acts. 62

Anno

Anno Regni
CAROLI II.
REGIS
Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ,
DECIMO QUARTO.

At the *Parliament* begun at *Westminster* the Eighth day of *May*, *Anno. Dom.* 1661. In the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of our most Gracious Sovereign Lord *CHARLES*, by the Grace of God, of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland* King, Defender of the Faith, *&c.*

And there continued till the Nineteenth of *May*, in the Fourteenth year of His Majesties said Reign. And thence Prorogued to the Eighteenth of *February* then next following.

In the *Savoy*,
Printed by the Assigns of *John Bill* and *Christopher Barker*, Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1671.

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Acts, or any other thing
authorized to be done by a
Majeſty) Which by the ſaid

Anno XIV.

AROLI II. Regis.

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Printed by the Assign

Anno XIV.

CAROLI II. Regis.

AN ACT FOR

Eſtabliſhing an Additional Revenue upon His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, for the better ſupport of His and their Crown and Dignity.

FOraſmuch as nothing conduceth more to the Peace and Proſperity of a Nation, and the Protection of every ſingle PREAMBLE.

person therein, then that the Publick Revenue thereof may be in some measure proportioned to the publick Charges and Expences; We therefore Your Majesties most Loyal and Obedient Subjects, the Commons assembled in Parliament, having duely considered the Premisses, do give and grant unto Your most Excellent Majesty, Your Heirs and Successors, the Rates and Duties herein after mentioned; and do humbly beseech Your Majesty that it be Enacted, And be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by, and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons in Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same,

From the 25 of *March* 1662 Every house, &c. That from and after the Five

England & *Wales*, shall be chargeable with the Annual payment of Two shillings for every fire-hearth, &c. within every such house, &c.

and

and twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord God, One thousand six hundred sixty and two, every Dwelling, and other House and Edifice, and all Lodgings, and Chambers in the Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colleges, and other Societies that are, or hereafter shall be erected within the Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed (other then such as in this Act are hereafter excepted and declared) shall be chargeable, and by this present Act, be and are charged with the Annual payment to the Kings Majesty, His Heirs and Successors for every Fire-hearth, and Stove within every such House, Edifice, Chamber, and Lodging, as aforesaid, the Sum of Two shillings by the year, to be paid yearly, and every year

Payable at *Michaelmas* and *Lady*-day, by equal portions.

at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and the Feast of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin St. Mary, by even and equal portions; the First payment thereof to be paid upon the Feast-day of St. Michael the Archangel, which shall be in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred fifty and two.

And to the intent that a just account may be had and taken of all the said Hearths and Stoves by this Act intended to be charged; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Occupier of every such House, Edifice, Lodgings and Chambers, shall respectively within six days after notice given unto him or them, by the respective Constables, Headboroughs, Tithing-men, or other such Officers, within whose Precinct the said House, Edifice,

Every Occupier shall deliver a just Accompt of his Fire-hearths, *&c.* to the Constables, *&c.* within six days after notice.

Cham-

Chambers or Lodgings shall be, or by the respective Treasurers or Officers of Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, or other Officers of the respective Colledges, and other Societies aforesaid, wherein any such Lodgings and Chambers shall be, deliver unto the said Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, or other such Officers as aforesaid respectively, a true and just account in writing under the hands of such Owners or Occupiers as aforesaid, of all the said Hearths and Stoves which are within their several and respective Houses, Lodgings and Chambers aforesaid.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the respective Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, or other such Officers, within whose limits any such House or Edifice charged by

The Constables, &c shall require such an Account by the last day of *May*, 1662.

this Act as aforesaid, are, and the respective Treasurers, and other Officers of the respective Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies aforesaid, shall by the last day of May, One thousand six hundred sixty and two, require the several Occupiers of every such House, Edifice, Lodging & Chamber aforesaid, to deliver in to them respectively Accompts in writing as aforesaid under their several and respective hands, of all such Hearths and Stoves as aforesaid, as shall be within their respective Houses, Edifices, Lodgings and Chambers; and upon receipt of the same, or upon default of such Accompt in writing, or in case there be no occupiers, then within six days after notice in writing first to the door, requiring such accompt to be made,

Such Accompts shall be in writing under the hands of the Occupiers.

Notice shall be fixed to the doors of empty houses.

made, the said Constables, or other Officers respectively, as aforesaid, shall enter into the said respective Houses in the daytime, and compare such Accompts, and see whether the same be truly made, or not. And if no such Accompt be delivered; then shall take information by their own view, of the number of such Hearths and Stoves, upon pain that every Constable, Treasurer, and other Officer aforesaid, who shall neglect to do the same, shall forfeit for every week he or they shall so neglect, the sum of Five pounds; and for every false return wilfully made contrary to this Act, he or they shall forfeit and lose for every Hearth or Stove so falsly returned or omitted, the sum of Fourty shillings.

The Constables &c. shall enter into all houses, &c. and compare the Accompts.

And shall take information by their own view where no Accompt is delivered.

The Constables, &c shall forfeit five pound for every weeks neglect.

Fourty shillings shall be forfeited for every false return.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid,

The Constables, &c. shall deliver their Accompts to the Justices of the Peace at the next Quarter-Sessions after the said last of May.

said, That the several Constables, and other Officers, who are hereby authorized to take the accompt of the aforesaid Hearths & Stoves within their particular Limits as aforesaid, shall at the next Quarter-Sessions after the said last day of May, to be holden for their respective Counties, deliver all such Accounts in writing, as they shall receive, reform, or take by their own view, unto the Justices of Peace in their respective Quarter-Sessions of the said Counties, together with a true Note of the names of all such persons who shall refuse or neglect to give unto them an account under their hands of such Hearths and Stoves within their respective Houses, Edifices, Chambers and Lodgings, as aforesaid.

With the names of such persons as have not given in their Accompts.

And be it further Enacted, That

That the ſaid Juſtices of Peace ſhall cauſe all the ſaid Accompts of the ſeveral Hearths and Stoves within the reſpective Counties to be Inrolled by the Clerk of the Peace of the ſaid reſpective Counties, Ridings in Yorkſhire, and Diviſions in Lincolnſhire, and alſo a Duplicate thereof in Parchment, under the Hands and Seals of three or more of the Juſtices of Peace of the reſpective Counties and places aforeſaid, who are hereby required to ſign the ſame to be returned into his Majeſties Court of Exchequer within one moneth next after ſuch account delivered unto them at their reſpective Quarter Seſſions aforeſaid, upon pain that the Clerk of the Peace of every ſuch County, Riding or Diviſion reſpectively offending therein, ſhall forfeit to his Majeſty,

The Juſtices ſhall cauſe ſuch Accompts to be inrolled by the Clerk of the Peace;

And a Duplicate thereof (ſigned by three Juſtices) ſhall be returned into the Exchequer within one moneth.

The Clerk of the Peace ſhall forfeit 200 *l.* for the firſt moneth's neglect.

His Heirs and Succeſſors, the ſum of Two hundred pounds for the firſt moneth; and for the ſecond moneth he ſhall ſo neglect, every ſuch Clerk of the Peace ſhall forfeit and loſe his or their place and office, and the ſame ſhall become void accordingly; which forfeiture and penalty ſhall be recovered and levied as this Act directs.

And for the ſecond he ſhall loſe his place.

And to the intent that the Revenue hereby ariſing to His Majeſty, may from time to time be paid into His Exchequer with as little charge as may be; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the reſpective Treaſurers, and other Officers of the Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies aforeſaid, within their reſpective Jurisdictions, and the ſeveral Petty-Conſtables, Tithing-men,

he Officers all Collect the oneys within days after ſe.

Head-

Head-boroughs, and such other Officers within the respective Limits, Liberties and Jurisdictions, shall every half year within six days after the said duty shall grow due, as aforesaid, collect, gather, and receive the same from the several Occupiers of the said Hearths and Stoves, and upon payment thereof, shall give several Acquittances (without taking any thing for such Acquittances) unto the several persons who shall pay the same: And that such Acquittances shall be a full and perfect discharge to every such person who shall pay the same, against His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors; so that no person who shall have such Acquittance, shall be molested, sued, or vexed, or put to any charge in his Majesties Court of Exchequer or elsewhere.

They shall give Acquittances freely.

And such Acquittances shall be a full discharge.

And

The Collectors upon non-payment) shall levy the same by distress and sale of goods.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any person who is hereby charged, or intended to be charged to pay any sum or sums of money as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same, that then every person or persons who is hereby authorized to collect the same, shall and may levy the same by distress and sale of the goods of the person and persons so refusing or neglecting, rendring unto the said person and persons the overplus of such money as shall remain in their hands by the said sale, after the said duty and necessary charges of levying the same is discharged as aforesaid.

Rendring the overplus, charges deducted.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the aforesaid Constables, Treasurers, and other Officers, who are hereby authorized to collect the afore-

The Collectors shall (within twenty days after due) pay the money to the High Constables.

aforesaid Duties, shall within Twenty days next after the aforesaid times at which the said Duties shall be due to His Majesty, as aforesaid, pay unto the High Constables of the several Hundreds and respective Limits, all such money as they shall receive for the aforesaid Duties, receiving an Acquittance without paying any thing for the same, and deducting Two pence in the pound for their pains in collecting the same; And shall also then in writing under his hand, deliver unto the said High Constable, the names of the persons of whom they receive the same, and also the names of such persons who ought to have paid the respective Duties yearly charged upon them, and have not paid the same, where no distress can be had.

The High Constables shall give the Collectors Acquittances, and allow them two pence in the pound for collecting.

The Collectors shall deliver to the High Constables the names of the persons who have paid,

with the names of such as have not paid, where no distress can be had.

And be it further Enacted, That

The High Constables (within ten days after their receipt) shall pay the moneys to the High Sheriffs.

That the High Constables of the several Hundreds and respective Limits, shall within ten days next after their several receipts from the said Constables, Headboroughs, Tithing-men, and other Officers, pay unto the High Sheriffs of every County, all such money as they shall so receive, deducting a peny in the pound for their pains; and shall also then deliver or cause to be delivered unto the said High Sheriffs, the several returns which they received from the Constables, and other Officers aforesaid.

Deducting one peny in the pound for their pains.

They shall deliver also the returns they received from the Collectors.

The Sheriffs, (within thirty days) shall return the moneys into the Exchequer,

And the respective Sheriffs shall within thirty days after he or they shall receive the said moneys from the re-respective Collectors, return the same, together with the names of such persons who are defaulters, and had no distress to be found,

with the defaulters names not distreinable,

found, into His Majesties Court of Exchequer, deducting Four pence out of every Twenty shillings, and so after that rate; whereof Three pence to be for the Sheriffs own use, as a reward of his pains in receiving and returning the same; and One peny to be paid by the Sheriff to the Clerk of the Peace, for his pains, to be recovered by the said Clerk of the Peace by Action of Debt.

deducting Four pence in the pound, viz. three pence for themselves, and one peny for the Clerk of the Peace.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That the High Sheriff of London and Middlesex for the time being, for London and so much of the County of Middlesex as lies within the Bills of Mortality, other then the Inns of Court and Chancery; and the High Sheriff of Surrey for the time being for the Burrough of Southwark, and all other Sheriffs of any other City or Town, being a

High Sheriffs of Cities or Towns being Counties of themselves, are made Collectors, &c.

a County of it self, for such Cities and Towns respectively, shall be, and are hereby made Collectors of, and for the several duties arising within their several and respective Limits; For which end and purpose, and in those places onely, the Constables, Tithingmen, Headboroughs and other Officers shall deliver unto the Sheriffs of the Cities and places aforesaid, Duplicates of the same Accompts of Hearths and Stoves, which the said Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, and other Officers are appointed by this Act to take from time to time, and to deliver to the Justices of Peace to be Inrolled as aforesaid; And the said Sheriffs of the Cities and places last before mentioned, are hereby enabled to levy the said duties, and required to give Acquittances

Constables, &c. in such places shall deliver Duplicates to such Sheriffs.

Such Sheriffs shall levy the duties, and give Acquittances without Fees.

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ces, without any Fees, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as in this Act is appointed to be done by any other Collectors; And the said Sheriffs shall from time to time within Fourty days after the said Duties shall be payable by vertue of this Act, make payment of all the moneys levied, into His Majesties Exchequer, with a perfect List of the names of such persons as shall make default of payment, where no distress can be found to be taken; Any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding. And the said Sheriffs shall deduct out of their payments Four pence in the pound; whereof Three pence to be for themselves, and One peny for the Clerk of the Peace, to be recovered as aforesaid.

And shall (within Fourty days after due) return the money into the Exchequer; with the names of persons not distreinable,

deducting three pence in the pound for themselves, and one peny for the Clerk of the peace.

And that His Majesties Officers

The Exchequer-Officers shall discharge persons without Fees;

Officers in his said Court of Exchequer, shall discharge all such persons who paid their respective Duties, without taking any Fees for the same, and shall also issue out Process to levy the said duty upon such persons who shall fail in payment thereof, where no distress can be found to be taken according to this Act.

And shall issue out process against defaulters, &c.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Revenue and Sum of money arising by vertue of this Act, (Except what shall be allowed to the aforesaid Officers and Ministers for Collecting the same) shall be duly and constantly paid and answered into his Majesties Court of Exchequer; and shall not be particularly charged or chargeable, either before it be paid into the Exchequer, or after, with

The Revenues of this Act shall be paid duly into the Exchequer, and shall not be charged with any Gift or Grant, &c.

with any Gift, Grants, or Pension whatsoever; And that all and every Grants of any such Pensions, and all and every clause of Non obstante therein contained shall be, and is hereby declared to be utterly void, and all and every the persons to whom such Grants are passed, shall be, and are hereby made Accomptants unto His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and shall pay back all sums of money received by pretence of such Grant; and the Court of Exchequer shall be, and is hereby enjoyned to issue out process accordingly.

All such Grants, &c. shall be void, and the Grantees shall be made Accomptants, &c.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action, Bill, Plaint, Suit, or Information shall be Commenced or Prosecuted against any person or persons, for what he or they shall do in pursuance or execution of this

All persons acting herein shall be Indemnified.

this Act, such person or persons so Sued, shall and may plead the general Issue, Not Guilty; And upon Issue joyned may give this Act, and the special matter in Evidence; and if the Plaintiff or Prosecutor shall become Non-suit, or suffer discontinuance, or if a Verdict pass against him, or if upon a Demurrer Judgment pass against him, the Defendant shall recover treble Costs, for which there shall be like remedy as in any case where Costs by Law are given to the Defendants.

And shall recover treble costs if molested.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Increase or Decrease of such Hearths or Stoves shall hereafter happen, that an account in writting of the same shall be had and made in like manner as the same is directed to be first taken,

Increase or Decrease of Hearths, &c. shall be made in form aforesaid.

returned

returned and inrolled by this Act; And a Duplicate thereof sent into the Exchequer in such sort as is before directed; And from thenceforth the Owner or Occupier of such House, where such Decrease is, shall be discharged proportionably without any further pleading in the Exchequer.

And the Occupiers shall be charged or discharged accordingly.

Provided always, That no person or persons shall be charged, prosecuted, or brought to accompt for the Arrearages of any Duty, Arrearages of Revenue levied by this Act, unless the said Suit shall commence within two years, and be brought to a Judgment within four years, and the Duty levied within Five years next after the same shall grow due.

No. person shall be Accomptable for any Arrears, unless put in Suit within two years, be brought to a Judgment within four years, and the duty levied within five years from the time due.

Provided always, That no person who by reason of his poverty, or the smallness of Estate is exempted from the

No person exempted (by reason of poverty) from payments to the Church & Poor, shal be chargable by this Act, &c

this Act, such person or persons so Sued, shall and may plead the general Issue, Not Guilty; And upon Issue joyned may give this Act, and the special matter in Evidence; and if the Plaintiff or Prosecutor shall become Non-suit, or suffer discontinuance, or if a Verdict pass against him, or if upon a Demurrer Judgment pass against him, the Defendant shall recover treble Costs, for which there shall be like remedy as in any case where Costs by Law are given to the Defendants.

And shall recover treble costs if molested.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Increase or Decrease of such Hearths or Stoves shall hereafter happen, that an account in writting of the same shall be had and made in like manner as the same is directed to be first taken

Increase or Decrease of Hearths, &c. shall be made in form aforesaid.

return

returned and inrolled by this Act; And a Duplicate thereof sent into the Exchequer in such sort as is before directed; And from thenceforth the Owner or Occupier of such House, where such Decrease is, shall be discharged proportionably without any further pleading in the Exchequer.

And the Occupiers shall be charged or discharged accordingly.

Provided always, That no person or persons shall be charged, prosecuted, or brought to account for the Arrearages of any Duty, or Arrearages of Revenue vailed by this Act, unless the said Suit shall commence within two years, and be brought to a Judgment within four years, and the Duty levied within Five years next after the same shall grow due.

No person shall be Accomptable for any Arrears, unless put in Suit within two years, be brought to a Judgment within four years, and the duty levied within five years from the time due.

Provided always, That no person who by reason of his poverty, or the smallness of his Estate is exempted from the

No person exempted (by reason of poverty) from payments to the Church & Poor, shal be chargable by this Act, &c

the usual Taxes, Payments and Contributions, towards the Church and Poor, shall be charged or chargeable with any the Duties by this Act Imposed, Any thing herein before to the contrary notwithstanding.

Certificates may be given by the Churchwardens and Overseers for the Poor, with the Minister, &c.

Provided always, and be it hereby Enacted, That if the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish, together with the Minister of the same, or any two of them (whereof the Minister to be one) shall in writing under their hands yearly certifie their belief, that the house wherein any person doth Inhabit is not of greater value then of twenty shillings per annum, upon the full improved Rent; And that neither the person so Inhabiting, nor any other using the same Messuage, hath, useth, or occupieth any Lands or Tene-

Tenements of their own or others, of the yearly value of Twenty shillings per annum, nor hath any Lands, Tenements, Goods, or Chattels, of the value of Ten pounds in their own possession, or in the possession of any other in trust for them; That then in such case, upon such Certificate made to the two next Justices of Peace, and allowed by them (for which Certificate and allowance no Fee shall be paid) the person on whose behalf such Certificate is made, shall not be returned by the Constable, or other Officer; And the said house is hereby for that year discharged of, and from all the Duties by this Act imposed; Any thing herein to the contrary notwithstanding.

Upon such Certificates (allowed by the two next Justices of the Peace) persons shall not be returned.

And such house, &c. shall be discharged.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority

Persons procuring or accepting any Pension, &c. out of this Revenue, shall forfeit double the value;

aforesaid, That if any person or persons, bodies Politick or Corporate, shall at any time hereafter procure or accept of from the Kings Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, any Pension, Gift, or Grant for years, life, or any other Estate, or any sum or sums of Money, out of the revenue arising by vertue of this Act, that then such person or body Politick or Corporate, procuring or accepting the same, shall forfeit double the value of such Pension, Gift, or Grant: The one moyety of which forfeiture shall be to the use of the Poor of the Parish or Parishes, where the said Offenders be, or inhabit, to be recovered by the Churchwardens; the other moyety to him that will sue for the same, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information.

The one moyety to the poor, and the other to the party suing.

Pro-

Provided that this Act, or any thing herein contained shall not extend to charge any Blowing-house and Stamp, Furnace, or Kiln, or any Private Oven within any of the houses hereby charged, nor any Hearth or Stove within the scite of any Hospital or Alms-house for the relief of poor people, whose Endowment and Revenue doth not exceed in true value the sum of One hundred pounds by the year.

No blowing-house, &c. shall be charged by this Act,

Nor any Hearth within the scite of any Hospital, &c.

Provided, that the payments and Duties hereby charged, shall be charged only on the Occupier for the time being of such Hearth or Stove, dwelling in such house whereto such Hearth or Stove shall be belonging, his Executors or Administrators, and not on the Landlord who Let or Demised the same, his Heirs, Executors or Assigns.

The payments shall be charged upon the Occupier onely.

No person indebted for the duties of this Act, shall be thereby priviledged to sue another in the Exchequer.

Provided also, That no person or persons Indebted for any the Duties aforesaid, shall thereby be priviledged as a Debtor or Debtors to His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, to sue any person or persons in the Court of Exchequer, or to assign any Debt to his Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, towards satisfaction of the same.

Anno

Anno XV.

CAROLI II. Regis.

An Additional Act for the better Ordering and Collecting the Revenue arising by Hearth-money.

PREAMBLE.

WHereas the Revenue Setled on His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, by a late Act, Entituled (An Act for establishing an Additonal Revenue upon His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the better support of His and their Crown and Dignity) hath been much obstructed for want of true and just Accompts

compts under the hands of the respective Occupiers of Houses, Edifices, Lodgings and Chambers, as by the said Act is required, and by the negligence of Constables and other Officers intrusted with the Taking and Reforming such Accompts: Be it therefore Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by Authority of the same, That the Justices of the Peace of the Respective Counties, Corporations, Places and Limits within their respective Jurisdictions, at the next Sessions to be held after the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next ensuing, or the major part of them then present, shall issue out Warrants under their

The Justices of Peace at the next sessions after *Michaelmas* 1661 shall issue Warrants to the High Constables, &c.

their hands and Seals to the respective High Constables, or other like next Officer, who shall issue the like Warrants unto the Petty Constables, Headboroughs and Tithingmen, requiring them on the next Sunday after Morning-Service ended, to give publick notice in the Church or Chappel generally to all the Inhabitants, and also to give notice publickly in the Church, and particularly as aforesaid to every Inhabitant within their respective Precincts, that shall then be Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber; That within Ten days next after such notice, he give a true and just accompt in writing under his hand, of all Hearths and Stoves in such respective House, Edifice, Lodging and Chamber, unto such respective

Who shall issue like Warrant the petty Constables, &c.

requiring them (the next Sunday after morning Service) give publick notice in the Church, &c.

And particular notice to every Occupier of any house, &c. within their Precincts,

That (within ten days) they give to them a just Accompt of all houses, &c.

The Constables, &c. shall (upon receipt thereof) with two other Inhabitants enter into all houses, &c.

Constable, Headborough and Tithingman, who upon receipt of such Accompt, shall with Two other substantial Inhabitants of the said respective Precinct, whom they are hereby Authorized to Charge for that purpose, in the day-time enter into the respective House, Edifice, Lodging, and Chamber, and upon his own view compare such Accompt,

And shall compare and examine the truth of such Accompts, and endorse them according to view,

and see whether the same be truly made or not, and Endorse the said Accompt accordingly to what he finds upon his view; which Accompt so received and Endorsed, shall be by him transmitted within twenty days after such Receipt,

And transmit them (within twenty days after receipt) to the High Constable, &c.

to the respective High-Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, together with a Book or Roll fairly written, wherein shall be two Columes,

together with a Book or Roll with two Columes.

The

The one containing the Names of the persons, and number of Hearths and Stoves in their respective Possessions, that are chargeable by the said Act; and the other the Names of the persons, and number of Hearths and Stoves in their respective Possessions, which are not chargeable by the said Act: Which being so received by such respective High Constable or other like Officer as aforesaid, and compared together, shall within six days after such Receipt be transmitted to the two next respective Justices of the Peace, who are hereby impowered to examine the said respective High Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, Petty Constable, Headborough or Tythingman, upon Oath, concerning the truth and faithfulness of their actings in the

The one with the names of the Persons and Hearths, &c. chargeable in their possessions.

The other of Persons and Hearths, &c. not chargeable.

The High Constables, &c. shall compare, and (within six days after Receipt) transmit them to the two next Justices of Peace,

who shall examine the High Constables, &c. upon Oath concerning the truth of their acting.

premiſes; which being done, the ſaid Juſtices ſhall within ten days after ſuch examination, Sign and Tranſmit the ſaid Book and Roll together with the ſaid Original Accompts ſo Endorſed as aforeſaid, and Filed together, unto the reſpective Clerk of the Peace, who ſhall within Twenty days after receipt thereof, Engroſs the ſaid Book or Roll in Parchment, to be ſtill kept in the reſpective County and Places aforeſaid; and ſhall alſo within Two Moneths Engroſs in Parchment a true Duplicate of the ſaid Book or Roll, which being Signed by him and by two Juſtices of the Peace at leaſt of the reſpective County and Places aforeſaid, ſhall be tranſmitted within one Moneth after ſuch Engroſment into his Majeſties Courts of Exchequer.

The ſaid Juſtices ſhall (within ten days after examination) ſign and tranſmit ſuch Accompt to the Clerk of the peace.

The Clerk of the peace (within twenty days) ſhall Engroſs the ſaid Book or Roll, &c.

And (within two moneths) Engroſs a Duplicate thereof,

which ſigned by him and two Juſtices, &c. ſhall be tranſmitted (within one moneth) into the Exchequer.

Pro-

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Occupier of any House, Office, Lodging, or Chamber, shall not make or cause to be made an Accompt, or shall omit in his Accompt required to be made by this Act, any Hearth or Stove; he shall for every such Hearth or Stove he shall so omit, forfeit the sum of Fourty shillings.

Every Occupier not giving in (or omitting any Hearth, &c.) in his Accompt shall forfeit Fourty shillings for every such Omission.

Provided also, That if any Petty Constable, Headborough or Tythingman to whom such Accompts as aforesaid shall come, shall neglect to transmit the same, together with a Book or Roll in manner and time aforesaid, to the respective High Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, or shall make default in giving such notice as aforesaid, or in comparing the Accompt with two substantial Inha-

The Constables, &c. neglecting their Duty shall forfeit for every offence Five pound.

bitants as aforesaid, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of Five pounds.

Every High Constable, &c. neglecting his Duty, shall forfeit for each offence 5 l.

Provided also, That if any High Constable or other like Officer as aforesaid, shall neglect to compare the said Original Accompts and the said Book or Roll, or to transmit the same in manner and time aforesaid, he shall for every such Offence forfeit the sum of Ten pounds. All which before mentioned Forfeitures and Penalties shall be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesties Courts of Record, the one half to the use of His Majesty, the other half to the use of him or them that shall sue for the same.

Which forfeitures shall be recovered by Action of Debt, &c.

And whereas His Majesties said Revenue settled by the aforesaid Act, hath been much prejudiced by Annual changing of Petty Constables,

bles, Headboroughs, Tythingmen, High Constables, and Sheriffs, to whom the Collecting and Receipt of His Majesties said Revenue is thereby intrusted; Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the changing of such Annual Officers, or leaving of their said Offices, shall not excuse or disable any person who shall be Constable, Headborough, Tythingman, High Constable, or Sheriff at the time that any Revenue or Duty shall grow due or payable by the said Act, from Collecting, Distraining, and Receiving respectively such Revenue or Duty so grown due; but that every such person in such case is hereby enabled and required to do all things respectively, as to such Revenue or Duty so growing due, as if he had continued Constable, Headborough,

The changing of Annual Officers shall not excuse or disable them from Collecting &c. any the Revenues payable &c.

borough, Tythingman, High Constable or Sheriff; Any thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person who by the said, or this Act, ought to Collect, Distrain for, Receive or Pay over any the said Revenue, shall neglect or refuse to do his duty therein, for every week he shall neglect or refuse, he shall forfeit the sum of Twenty shillings, to be recovered in manner, and by such person or persons as the aforesaid Forfeitures by this Act are to be recovered.

very person appointed by the Acts to Collect &c. shall forfeit wenty shillings or every weeks eglect of his uty.

Provided also, and be it Declared and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in all cases which by this or the aforesaid Act, any Petty Constable, Headborough, or Tythingman, may enter into the house of

ny Officer (by e Acts enabled enter and distrain) may call his aid two her Inhabitants, &c.

any

any person, or may Distrain the Goods of any person, he may call to his aid any two sufficient Inhabitants of the respective Townships or Precincts, who are hereby enjoyned to assist him therein.

Provided also, and be it Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Sheriff is by the aforesaid Act appointed to be Collector of any part of the said Revenue, that such Sheriff may execute the said place of Collector, by such Deputy or Deputies as to him shall seem meet, being thereunto appointed under the Great Seal of his Office, or under his own hand and seal; Any thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

All Sheriffs made Collectors may execute by their Debuties.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority afore-

The Officers of Inns of Court, &c. shall do all things as the Constables, &c. under like penalties, and without Warrant from the Justices;

aforesaid, That the respective Treasurers, and other Officers of the respective Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies chargeable by the aforesaid Act for their Hearths and Stoves, shall do all things as the respective Constables by this Act are enjoyned to do, under the like Penalties, though without any Warrant from the respective Justices of the Peace; And that every Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber within any the respective Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges and Societies aforesaid, shall do all things, and under the like Penalties as are required by this Act of any Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber elsewhere.

And Occupiers there shall do all things under like penalties as Occupiers elsewhere

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority afore-

aforesaid, That the High Bayliff of Westminster for the time being, or his or their Deputy or Deputies, may within the City and Liberties of Westminster, from and after the Eight and twentieth day of September next, Collect & Levy the said Duty, and put in execution all the Powers of the said former Act, and this present Act, as amply as any Sheriffs who by the said former Act are made Collectors, may do within their respective Limits and Jurisdictions appointed to them by the said Act: And the said Bayliff for y time being shall be subject to the same Penalties and Duties as the said Sheriffs are, & shall receive the same reward; and the Sheriff of Middlesex for the time being is discharged from putting in execution the Trust aforesaid in the said City and Liberty of Westminster, from the

The High Bayli of *Westminster*, *&c.* may (after the 28 of *September* 1663.) put the powers of the Acts in execution, *&c.*

And shall be subject to the same Penalties, and receive the same reward, as other, *&c.*

The Sheriff of *Middlesex* is discharged from acting in *Westminster*, save about arrears onely.

the said Eight and twentieth day of September, saving onely for the Collecting of such Arrears as then shall happen to be: And the Constables and Headboroughs, and other Officers within the said City and Liberty of Westminster, shall deliver unto the said Bayliff, Duplicates of all Accompts of Hearths and Stoves, and do all other things in such manner as by the said Act they ought to have done unto the said Sheriffs; Any thing in the said, or this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Constables, &c. of *Westminster* shall deliver their Accompts to the said Bayliff.

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Bayliff of the Burrough of Southwark for the time being, his Deputy or Deputies, may within the said Burrough, and other Liberties of Southwark, from and after the Eight and twen-

The Bayliff of *Southwark* may execute like powers, &c.

twentieth day of September next, Collect and Levie the said Duty, and put in execution all the Powers of the said former Act, and this present Act, as amply as any Sheriffs who by the said former Act are made Collectors may do, within their respective Limits and Jurisdictions appointed to them by the said Act; and the said Bayliff for the time being shall be subject to the same Penalties and Duties, as the said Sheriffs are; and shall receive the same reward; and the Sheriff of Surrey for the time being is discharged from putting in execution the Trust aforesaid in the said Burrough & Liberties of Southwark, from the said Eighth and twentiethday of September; And the Constables and other Officers within the said Burrough and Liberties, shall deliver unto the said Bayliff,

He shall be subject to like penalties, and may receive like reward, &c.

The Sheriff of *Surrey* disabled, &c.

The Constables, &c. of *Southwark* shall deliver their Accompts to the said Bayliff.

liff, Duplicates of all Accompts of Hearths and Stoves, and do all other things in such manner as by the said Acts they ought to have done unto the said Sheriffs; Any thing in the said former or this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Lord Treasurer, and the Chancellour of the Exchequer may make further allowance to the Clerks of the Peace, not exceeding one peny in the pound.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Lord High Treasurer of England, and the Chancellor of His Majesties Court of Exchequer, or either of them, to give and make such further allowance unto the Clerks of the Peace of the respective Counties of this Kingdom (for their labour and pains in and about the Writing, Engrossing and Returning into His Majesties Court of Exchequer, the Duplicates and Returns of the several Constables, in Parchment, over and

and besides what is allowed by the said first recited Act) as the said Lord High Treasurer and Chancellor, or either of them shall think meet and convenient, the same allowance not exceeding One peny in the ponnd by the year; Any thing in the said former, or in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Anno

Anno XVI.

CAROLI II. Regis.

AN ACT FOR

Collecting the Duty arising by Hearth-money, by Officers to be appointed by His Majesty.

PREAMBLE.

Whereas by an Act made in the Parliament begun at Westminster the Eighth day of May, in the Thirteenth year of His Majesties Reign that now is, Entituled, An Act for Establishing an Additionel Revenue upon His

His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the better support of His and their Crown and Dignity; And by another Act made in the second Session of the said Parliament in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of His said Majesty, Entituled, An Additional Act for the better Ordering and Collecting the Revenue arising by Hearth-money, It was Enacted and Ordained, That from and after the Five and twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred fifty and two, every Dwelling, and other House and Edifice, and all Lodgings in Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies that are, or hereafter shall be erected within the Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed (other then such as are therein excepted)

excepted) shall be, and are charged with the Annual payment to the Kings Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for every Fire-Hearth and Stove within every such House, Edifice, Chambers and Lodgings, the sum of Two shillings by the year, to be paid yearly at the Feasts of Saint Michael the Arch-angel, and of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary, by even and equal Portions; an exact and just Accompt of the numbers of all which Fire-Hearths and Stoves is thereby Enacted to be taken and returned into His Majesties Court of Exchequer; And the Moneys and Revenues due and payable for the same, to be Collected, Levied and Paid to His Majesty, by such persons and Officers, in manner and form as by the said Acts is prescribed.

Nevertheless, by reason of some defects in the said Act, and great negligence of the said Officers and other persons, in not returning the exact Numbers of the said Fire-hearths and Stoves, and not duly Collecting, Levying and paying into His Majesties Exchequer, the full Revenue due for the Numbers returned at the times appointed, and by sundry fraudulent practises to elude the said Acts, the said Revenue is much diminished, and not duely answered.

For remedy thereof, and for the better ascertaining and collecting the said Revenue for the future, Be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by Autha-

Authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Kings Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, from, and after the Four and twentieth day of June, One thousand six hundred sixty four, from time to time, by, and with the advice of the Lord High Treasurer, Chancellour, Under-Treasurer, and Barons of the Court of Exchequer for the time being, or any three of them, whereof the Lord High Treasurer or Chancellour of the Exchequer to be one, to constitute and appoint such person or persons as his Majesty, His Heirs and Successors shall think meet, to be the officer or Officers for the receiving and collecting, and answering the Duty arising by the said Fire-hearths and Stoves, by virtue of the said several Acts, and for

The Kings Majesty, &c. may appoint Officers to receive and answer the Duty ariling by Fire-hearths, &c.

And for viewing and numbering the said Hearths, &c. and inspecting the returns thereof made, and to be made.

viewing and numbring of the several Chimney-Hearts and Stoves mentioned in the said Acts; and for the inspecting and examining the several Rolls, Certificates, and Returns thereof made, and to be made from time to time into His Majesties Court of Exchequer, in pursuance of the said Acts, or any other thing belonging to the same, which Officers, or any of them shall have full power to examine and supervise the Rolls and Numbers of Fire-hearths and Stoves already returned into the said Court of Exchequer; And being accompanied with the Constable, or the Tythingman, Treasurer, Under-Treasurer, or other publick or proper Officer of the place (who are hereby required to attend and assist upon this occasion)

And to Examine the Rolls, &c. returned into the Exchequer.

And with the Constable, &c. (or without, where none) to enter into any house, &c.

sion) and in all Parishes and places where there are no Constables, Tithingmen, or other publick Officer, as aforesaid, there, without any such assistance to enter in the day-time into any dwelling or other House, Edifice, Lodgings and Chambers aforesaid, and to search and examine whether there be any more Fire-hearths and Stoves in the same then were formerly returned or certified; and what Fire-hearths or Stoves are increased, or decreased since the former Certificate. After which search and examination, the said Officer, with a Constable, or Tithingman, or Officers as aforesaid, shall have liberty to make the like search and examination once every year: And if they shall find any variance in the number returned, both the Officer or Officers appointed by His Majesty,

And search if there be any more Fire-hearths, &c.

And what are increased, and what decreased, &c.

And to make like search once every year.

If they shall find any variance, they shall certifie the same to the Clerk of the Peace.

and the Constable or Tithingman, or other Officer as aforesaid, to certifie the same under his and their hands to the Clerk of the Peace, which Certificate they are hereby enjoyned to make: And after approbation thereof by the Justices of the Peace at their Sessions, the same to be certified to His Majesties Remembrancer in the Exchequer; and the Officer or Officers so appointed by His Majesty unto the same, shall fromand after the said Four and twentieth day of June, One thousand six hundred sixty Four, have power to Collect and Levy the Revenue and Duties so given to His Majesty as aforesaid, and all Arrears of the same.

Which being approved by the Justices at their Sessions, shall be transmitted into the Exchequer.

Such Officers shall Collect the Duty from the twenty fourth of June, 1664.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Duty shall from time to time be paid after the Feast-days of Saint Michael the Archangel-

The Duty shall be paid (when due) upon demand thereof, at the house, &c.

gel, and the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary yearly, unto such Officer as shall be appointed by vertue of this present Act to receive the same upon demand thereof made by such Officer, or his Deputy, at the House, Chamber, or place where the same Duty shall arise, or grow due: And that in case of refusal, or default of such payment thereof, by the space of one hour after such demand, the said Officer or his Deputy may at any time, with the assistance of a Constable, Tithingman, or other Officer as aforesaid, in the day-time, levy the said Duty, and all the Arrearages thereof, by distress and sale of the Goods of the party or parties so refusing, or making default; restoring to the party or parties the overplus of the value of such Goods, over and above the Duty and Arrearages there-

In default of payment, one hour after demand, the duty may be levied by distress and sale of Goods, &c.

Restoring the overplus, charges deducted, not exceeding one moyety of the duty.

of them behind, and over and above the necessary Charges of taking such Distress, which Charges shall in no case exceed the one moyety of the Duty and Arrearages thereof so levied.

None shall be charged, &c. for the duty after it hath been due two years, &c.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That no owners, Proprietors, or Occupiers of the said Fire-hearths or Stoves, shall be charged, distrained, or molested for the said duty, or any Arrearages thereof, at any time after the space of two years next after the Duty hereafter shall become due to His Majesty, His Heirs, or Successors; Nor for any Arrearages of the said duty already incurred, after the space of two years, from the Four and twentieth day of June, One thousand six hundred sixty & four.

Nor for any old Arrears after two years from the 24 of *June*, 1664.

Opposition or injury to any Officer, &c. shall be proved by oath before a Justice of Peace.

And in case of violent opposition, or injury done by any person or persons to any such

such Officer or his Deputy, in the due execution of this Act; and the same proved by Oath before any one Justice of the Peace, or chief Magistrate, or Magistrates of the City, Town, or place, dwelling near unto the place, who are hereby authorised to administer the said Oath; It shall and may be lawful to, and for such Justice of the Peace, Magistrate or Magistrates, to punish such offender or offenders, if he shall find cause by Imprisonment in the common Goal, for any time not exceeding the space of one moneth. And from and after the said Four & Twentieth day of June, One thousand six hundred sixty four, all Officers formerly appointed to Collect the said Duty, shall be discharged from the future collecting and levying the same, otherwise then as they are directed by this Act:

Such Justices of Peace may imprison offenders for the space of one moneth.

After the twenty fourth of *June*, 1664. all Officers appointed to Collect the Duty by the former Acts, shall be discharged from acting otherwise then by this Act.

The Officers so appointed shall pay the Duty into the exchequer.

And the said Officer and Officers so appointed by His Majesty to collect this Duty, shall pay the same into His Majesties Exchequer, to the ends in the said former Acts mentioned.

All persons to be imployed, shall give security for the discharge of their trusts,

Provided, That no person or persons shall be employed as aforesaid, unless he and they shall first give in sufficient Security to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the due Collecting, Levying and Paying in of the said Revenue, or such part thereof as shall be commited to their respective Trusts, and shall likewise take a Corporal Oath before one or more of the Barons of the Exchequer, or before such persons as shall be authorised to take such Security and Oath by Commission from the said Court of Exchequer, for the due and faithful execution thereof, according to the Laws

And shall take a Corporal Oath, &c. for the due execution thereof.

Laws Enacted to that purpose; And that they shall not exact or demand any Fee, or sum of money for execution thereof, from any Subject, but onely from the Kings Majesty, under pain of being disabled to execute the said Office or Imployment; And upon legal Conviction of any such Crime, to render treble damage to the party grieved: And shall sign and deliver Acquittances for moneys by them received, without any Fee or Reward whatsoever; and every such Acquittance shall be a final Discharge, as in the said first Act is provided.

They shall not demand any Fee, &c. under penalty of disabling, and rendring treble, &c.

They shall give Acquittances, which shall be final Discharges.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person occupying any Hearth or Stove chargeable to His Majesty, shall leave or relinquish any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber, before any of the half-yearly Feasts whereon

Upon removal of any Occupier &c. before the half-year day.

the same is appointed to be paid to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors; In every such case, the next Occupier thereof shall be chargeable with the same for the said half-year: And if any person shall fraudulently stop up, deface, cover or conceal any Chimney-hearth, or Stove chargeable by the said Act, and the same be proved, either by confession of the party, or upon Oath before one Justice of Peace, or chief Magistrate, or by their view, he shall for such offence pay double the value of the Duty for the same, to be levied as aforesaid.

The next Occupier shall be chargeable with such half-years dues.

They that shall stop up, &c. any Hearth, &c. chargeable, shall pay double the value of the Duty.

And be it likewise Enacted, That if any person within one year last past hath, or hereafter shall let the Lands, Gardens, Orchards or Outhouses formerly belonging to any Dwelling-house or Cottage apart from the same, or shall divide any house

They that within one year past have (or hereafter shall) let the Lands, &c. formerly belonging to any house, &c. or shall divide any house, or let the same to persons exempted by the Acts, shall pay the Duty as they ought to have done before

house into several dwellings, or let out the same to any such persons, who by reason of their poverty may pretend to be exempted from payment of the said Duty, by any Clause or Clauses in the former Acts, That in every such case, such person shall pay the said Duty in as ample manner as they ought to have done before that time. And that no person or persons inhabiting any Dwelling-house (not being an Alms-house exempted by the former Act) within any City, Burrough, Corporation, Market-Town, or Parish, which hath, or shall have in it more then two Chimneys, Fire-hearths or Stoves, shall be exempted from payment of the Duties thereon imposed, by colour of any exemption or pretext whatsoever.

The occupier of every dwelling (not being an Alms-house) which hath more then two Chimneys, &c. in it shall not be exempted, &c.

And if any question or diffe-

Differences arising about execution of this Act, shall be determined by one or more Justices of Peace.

difference shall arise about the taking any Distress, or levying any money by vertue of this Act, the same shall be heard and finally determined by one or more of the Justices of the Peace near adjoyning, or chief Magistrate of the place respectively, upon complaint in that behalf.

Collectors not paying in the moneys received by them, within three moneths after due, shall lose their Offices.

And be it further Enacted, That every Collector who shall be authorized and appointed by vertue of this Act to receive any of the said Duties, shall truly answer and pay all such moneys as he shall receive for the said Duties, into his Majesties Receipt of Exchequer, half-yearly, within Three moneths after the Feast of Saint Michael the Arch-angel, or the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary, happening next after the time, the same moneys grew due to His Majesty by vertue

true of the said Acts, and under the penalty of the loss of his Office: And the Justices of Peace, and chief Magistraites, Constables, and other His Majesties Officers within their several Limits and Jurisdictions, are hereby authorized and required to give assistance from time to time, to such officers as shall be appointed by His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the collecting of the said Duty according to the true meaning of the said former Acts, and this present Act.

Justices of Peace, &c. are required to assist the Officers appointed to Collect the Duty.

Provided, That no person or persons shall be questioned for any Arrears due on or before our Lady-day, One thousand six hundred sixty four, who shall produce to the Collector a Certificate approved, or to be approved of, by the two next Justices of Peace, for their exemption from the said Duty for that time.

No persons producing a Certificate for their exemption, shall be questioned for any arrears due on or before *Lady-day*, 1664.

time, according to the Rules prescribed in the said first recited Act; nor any person who hath truly paid the said Duty, and shall, if it be required, make proof thereof before any one Justice of Peace, or other chief Magistrate of the place; Any thing therein contained, or any Return made into His Majesties Exchequer to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Nor any person who hath paid the Duty, and shall make proof thereof.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every such Officer or Officers as shall be at any time appointed by His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the collecting, gathering and receiving of the several sums of money now or hereafter to grow due unto His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for or in respect of the said Duty arising upon the Fire-hearths & Stoves, shall

The Collectors appointed by this Act, &c. shall pay unto the Constables, &c. the Allowances made to them in any of the former Acts.

shall satisfie and pay unto the respective Petty-Constables and Clerks of the Peace of this Kingdom; all such allowances as are by any former Act or Acts given and allowed unto them, as well for their pains and labour heretofore, as hereafter to be taken by them, as in and by the former Acts concerning Fire-hearths and Stoves are limited and appointed; Any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

By

By the King.

A PROCLAMATION

For the more exact and punctual Collecting and Answering His Majesties Revenue arising upon Fire-hearths and Stoves.

CHARLES R.

WHereas Our Revenue arising by Fire-hearths and Stoves, hath of late time been very much in arrear, and continues still behind and unpaid in many parts of Our Kingdom, partly through the misdemeanours of some persons who have presumed to conceal many Fire-hearths and Stoves, for which by Law they are chargeable, And to prevent the discovery of such Frauds,

Frauds, refuse to permit Our Officers or their Deputies to make their views, or to take Distresses; And partly through the neglect or connivance of several Justices of Peace, chief Magistrates, Ministers, Constables, and Churchwardens, who have given too much countenance to illegal and undue Certificates, and too little assistance to Our Officers and their Deputies in Collecting the said Revenue, whom they have in some places suffered to be reproched, and sometimes assaulted, without punishing the Malefactors; although it be the Duty of all Constables, Headboroughs, and other inferior Officers, to accompany, assist, and defend Our Officers and their Deputies in their Collections, and the Duty of all Justices of the Peace, and chief Magistrates in their respective

Places

Places and Callings, and with the utmost of their Authority to support Our Revenue, so well established by Law, and so necessary to the safety and defence of Us and Our good Subjects: We therefore resolving for the time to come to take a strict Accompt of all such persons as shall hereafter be found wanting in their Duty to Us, and to the Laws of Our Kingdom, have thought fit by the advice of Our Council, to Declare, and do hereby Publish Our Royal Will and Pleasure, That all Arrears of Our said Revenue, as well those which were incurred at, or before the Feast of St. Michael, in the year of Our Lord One thousand six hundred sixty and five, as those which have incurred since and all future growing Duties, shall forthwith, and with all possible speed and diligence, be collected and

levied by, and paid unto Our respective Officers & their Deputies appointed for that purpose; That is to say, What was due, at, or before Michaelmas 1665. to such Receivers or Collectors as already are, or shall be Commissionated by Us in pursuance of the Act of Parliament in that behalf, and to none other; And what did grow due for the half-year ended at Lady-day 1666. and not before, and so forward, to the Farmers of Our said Revenue, their Sub-farmers and Substitutes during their Term; The said Farmers, their Sub-farmers or Substitutes having no Authority, nor being any way concerned in the Receiving or Collecting any part of the said Revenue, which did grow due before Our Lady-day 1666. aforesaid, nor of any Penalty or Forfeiture which was not incurred till

after

after Michaelmas 1665. And We do hereby straitly Charge and Command all Justices of Peace, chief Magistrates, Headboroughs, Constables, Tithingmen, and all other Officers and Ministers of Justice whom it doth or may concern, That they be aiding and assisting to Our said Officers and their Debuties in the Collecting and Levying the said Arrears; and also in the Collecting and Levying all such further sums of money as hereafter shall grow due and payable for, or by reason of any Fire-hearths or Stoves, according to the utmost of their power: And herein We do expect and require from them and every of them, so vigorous and effectual assistance, that all concealment of any Hearths or Stoves may be speedily detected, all illegal and undue Certificates discharged

for

for exempting of any persons, all obstructions in the Collecting of our said Revenue removed; and all persons which shall assault or affront Our Officers or their Deputies either in word or deed, exemplarily punished, upon pain of Our high Displeasure, and of being proceeded against as Contemners of Our Royal Authority, and as persons ill affected to the Peace and Safety of Our Kingdom. And to the end Our Will and Pleasure herein may be made known, We do hereby Will and Require all Sheriffs, Mayors and Bayliffs in the several and respective Counties, Cities, and Town-corporate of this Our Realm, to cause this Our Proclamation to be Published in all and every the Market-places within their Limits, upon some Market-day, within Fourteen days next after

after their Receipt thereof, as they will answer the contrary at their perils.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the 19th day of December, in the 18th year of Our Reign, 1666.

God save the King.

In the SAVOY,
Printed by the Assigns of *John Bill* and *Christopher Barker*, His Majesties Printers, 1668.

INSTRUCTIONS

To be obſerved by His

MAJESTIE'S OFFICERS

AND

Their reſpective DEPUTIES,

Imployed for

Collecting His MAJESTIEs Revenue ariſing from the Duty impoſed upon *Chimneys*, *Fire-hearths* and *Stoves*, by virtue of the Acts of PARLIAMENT made in that behalf.

LONDON,

Printed in the Year 1672.

INSTRUCTIONS

To be observed by His Majestie's *Officers and their respective Deputies, imployed for Collecting His* Majestie's *Revenue arising from the Duty imposed upon* Chimneys, Hearths *and* Stoves, *by virtue of the Act made in the First Session of Parliament begun at* Westminster *the eighth day of* May, *in the thirteenth year of His* Majestie's *Reign, entituled,* An Act for establishing an Additional Revenue upon His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the better support of His and their Crown and Dignity; *and of another Act made in the Second Session of the same Parliament, entituled,* An Additional Act for the better Ordering and Collecting, the Revenue arising by Hearthmony; *and of another Act made*

in the Third Seſſion of the ſame Parliament, entituled, An Act for Collecting the Duty ariſing by Hearthmony by Officers to be appointed by His Majeſty.

YOU and every of your Deputies are to peruſe and conſider all the Clauſes of the ſaid ſeveral Acts, that you may the better Collect and Levy the Duty of Two ſhillings for every Fire-hearth and Stove (within your Charge) impoſed and eſtabliſhed by the ſaid Acts of Parliament, and payable at the Feaſts of St. *Michael* the Archangel, and the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin *Mary*, yearly, by equal portions, and of all Arrears and Penalties that are or ſhall grow due to His Majeſty for the ſame; wherein you are to take notice, that the Arrears now due to His Majeſty are onely ſuch as have incurred ſince the 25. day of *March* 1669.

And you and your reſpective Deputies are to know and underſtand the Particulars following:

I.

That all and every Fire-hearth and Stove, which upon the 25. day of *March* 1662. was, or ſhould after that time be, in any dwelling or other houſe and edifice, &c. whether in a Chimny, or in any part of ſuch houſe, edifice, &c. (other then ſuch as in the Acts are excepted) is chargeable and charged with the Duty.

II.

That all perſons (living in houſes having leſs then three Chimneys, Fire-hearths and Stoves in them) who do receive weekly or monthly Contribution for their ſupport from the Pariſh wherein they live reſpectively, are abſolutely freed and diſcharged from the Duty.

III.

That no Perſon ought to be charged with the Duty who ſhall produce or be comprehended in a Certificate made (in all points) as is directed by the Act: Provided, that the houſe wherein the party liveth be not a divided houſe, nor hath any Land, Garden, Orchard,

or Out-housing (belonging thereunto) lett apart from the same; (in which case the Landlord onely ought to be charged: (and also Provided such house have not above two Chimneys, Fire-hearths, and Stoves therein.

IV.

That such a Certificate must comprehend all the joint qualifications of a *Pauper*, as the same are expressly described in the first Act, and cannot be warranted if any one or more of them be omitted therein. That is to say, If either the house wherein the party certified for doth inhabit be of greater value then twenty shillings *per annum* upon the full improved rent, or that the person so inhabiting, or any other using the same, hath, useth or occupieth any Lands or Tenements of their own or others of the yearly value of twenty shillings *per annum*, or hath any Lands, Tenements, Goods or Chattels, of the value of ten pound in their own possession, or in the possession of any other in trust for them; the said Certificate is illegall and void.

That

V.

That the ſaid Certificate muſt be ſigned by the Miniſter of the Pariſh; and by one or more of the Church-wardens or Collectors for the Poor, and allowed under the hands of two Juſtices of the Peace; otherwiſe it is not ſufficient.

VI.

That ſuch a Certificate diſcharges no perſon farther then for the year wherein the ſame is made; (that is to ſay) a Certificate made in 1669. cannot diſcharge the Duty due in the year 1670.

VII.

That no Certificate made contrary unto, or not fully agreeing in all the before-mentioned requiſites of a Legal Certificate, can bind up or hinder you or your Deputies from levying His Majeſtie's Duty.

VIII.

That foraſmuch as all Legal Certificates are neceſſary Vouchers for the diſcharge of ſo much upon your Accompts, you and your Deputies (upon allowance

ance of ſuch) are to take them in, and withall to be carefull that the perſons concerned may be put to no farther trouble for that year.

IX.

That in caſe a Certificate be made for more then one perſon, and you or any of your Deputies (upon enquiry) ſhall have good information, that any perſon or perſons comprehended therein are unduly certified for, and the ſame ſhall be made to appear to any of the Juſtices who allowed the ſaid Certificate, and he ſhall thereupon order the name or names of ſuch perſons to be ſtruck out of the ſame; then it will be requiſite, that the ſaid Juſtices do certifie in the ſaid Certificate, or on the backſide thereof, the name or names ſo ſtruck out, that ſuch may have no pretence to be exempted thereby, but ſtand as liable to the Duty, as if they had never been inſerted therein.

X.

That all Blowing-houſes and Stamp-furnaces, or Kilns, or private Ovens, and all Hearths or Stoves within the

Site

Site of any Hospital or Alms-house for the relief of poor people, whose Endowment and Revenue exceeds not in true value one hundred pounds *per annum*, are clearly exempt from being charged with the Duty: But the Hearth of a Chimny within any Kitchin, Back-house or Out-house, remains charged with the Duty, though the Hearths of the private Ovens, Furnaces or Oast-holes within or belonging to such Chimny be exempted.

XI.

That by Blowing-houses and Stamp-furnaces you are to understand Smelting-houses, or houses wherein the Mineral or Oar is melted down into Metal; and by private Ovens, such Ovens wherein provisions for the family onely (and not for gain) are baked or dressed.

XII.

That the Duty for all empty or void houses is to be charged and levied upon the Landlord or Owner of such house or houses, as Occupier thereof, till some other person inhabiteth therein: But

no

no Landlord or Owner of any house, edifice, &c. ought to be charged with the Duty while there is a Tenant or any other Occupier dwelling therein, unless in the cases following.

Where the Landlord or Owner hath lett any part of the Land, Gardens, Orchards, or Out-housing, formerly belonging to any house, apart from the same, or hath divided a house into lesser Tenements, and hath lett the same to a person that is or may be exempted by Law.

Nevertheless, you are directed to forbear to charge the Fire-hearths or Chimneys in houses or parts of houses new erected with the Duty, until the next half-year-day after such house or houses are or shall be inhabited.

XIII.

That the Duty may at any time after the half-yearly-feasts whereon the same groweth due to His Majesty be demanded & received by you or your Deputies;

But

But it cannot be levied by distress without the assistance of a Constable, Tything-man, or other publick or proper Officer of the place, (if any such be, otherwise without) and that in the day-time onely, nor till at least one hour after the first demand thereof.

XIV.

That the Distress is to be taken in the house for which the Duty is answerable, if it can conveniently be made therein; otherwise in any part of the out-housing, yards or land belonging and adjoyning thereunto.

XV.

That though after one hour of the first demand of the Duty, you or your Deputy (accompanied with a Constable, &c.) may proceed to distress; yet if the person who ought to pay the Duty, or any other in behalf of him or her, shall tender the same before distress be made, or (being made) before it shall be carried out of the house or ground upon which it shall be taken, the Duty so tendred is to be accepted of, and the goods so distreined are to be re-deliver-

red and restored without any farther Charge.

XVI.

That goods legally distreined may be left (as His Majestie's goods) in the hands of the Constable or other person at discretion, and may (for the Owners conveniency) be kept some reasonable time undisposed of: But if the said Owner do neglect or refuse to redeem them, they are to be sold at the best price can be gotten, and the overplus (if any) above the Duty and Charge is to be returned to the said Owner: And if the goods yield not so much as the *D*uty and lawfull Charge amounteth unto, a farther distress may be made for the remainder.

XVII.

That though the Charge of distreining (not exceeding the moiety of the Duty) be allowed; yet there ought to be no more taken in such case then (*bona fide*) the real Charge amounteth unto.

XVIII.

That you and your respective Deputies are to give plain and distinct Acquittances for what you shall receive, and that freely, without Fee or Reward, ascertaining therein the time when the Duty so received became due; and to advise persons to keep them safe, to prevent inconveniences that may happen by non-producing of them when necessity may require it.

XIX.

That no person can be distreined or molested for any Duty or Arrears thereof that hath been due above two years.

XX.

That if you or any of your Deputies shall be injured or opposed in the performance of your duties, you are to repair to the next Justice of the Peace, and make Oath before him thereof, and require such Relief of him as the Law directs.

XXI.

That no person can be chargeable

ith more then one half years Duty before he or ſhe taketh or entreth into a relinquiſhed houſe, though there ſhould be an Arrear of full two years Duty, or leſs, for or upon the ſaid houſe.

XXII.

That the ſtopping up, defacing, covering or concealing of any chargeable Chimny, Hearth, or Stove, doth not diſcharge the *Duty* payable for ſuch Hearth; but whoſoever ſhall do the ſame fraudulently, ſhall, for ſuch Offence, (being proved as the Act directs) pay double the value of the ſaid *Duty*: Nevertheleſs, if the whole Chimny wherein ſuch chargeable Hearth was ſhall be deſtroyed, demoliſhed, or quite taken down, in ſuch Caſe the Duty for ſuch Hearth or Hearths ought not to be exacted, the ſame being a Decreaſe, for which the Owner or Occupier may lawfully claim an allowance.

XXIII.

That no Fire-hearth within a Chimny ſtanding in whole or in part, is to be diſcharged from the *Duty*, under preſence that the ſame was ſtopped up, defaced,

defaced, or covered, before the Act, unleſs Affidavit be made, that the ſame was ſo done before the 26. day of *March* 1662. which Affidavits you are to preſerve, and return with your Accompt.

XXIV.

That a Perſon inhabiting any houſe, *&c.* wherein is above two Chimneys, Fire-hearths or Stoves, (except an Almshouſe or Hoſpital excepted) cannot be exempted from the Duty upon any pretext whatſoever.

XXV.

That no Perſon or Perſons are to be returned into the Exchequer in order to the iſſuing of any Proceſs thence againſt them in default of payment of the Duty, where a portable and valuable Diſtreſs may be had and taken within or about the houſe (or grounds belonging thereunto) for which the Duty is anſwerable. But in the Caſes following, you or your Deputies may have recourſe unto his Majeſties Court of Exchequer for recovery of His Majeſties Duty, by ſuch legal and proper Remedies as you ſhall from time to time be directed to purſue.

1. When the person owing the Duty is dead, and the Executors or Administrators live not in the house for which the Duty is payable.
2. When a party removes out of a house owing more then one half years Duty, or when (but half a year) the house lies void for above one half after his or her removal.
3. In the case of Empty houses, or of houses from which Land, &c. is lett, or of divided houses (formerly chargeable) lett unto *Paupers*.
4. When the persons who owe the Duty are priviledged, or do claim priviledge of Exemption from Distress.
5. When the Duty demanded is payable, but denied to be chargeable by the Act, and the party will not set out a Distress in order to a Trial at Law.
6. Where a portable and valuable Distress cannot be made or taken upon the Premisses, and yet the Persons able to answer the Duty.

7. When

7. When perſons ſhall wilfully ſhut their doors againſt you or your Deputies, thereby to prevent the Levying of the Duty.

A.

YOU are forthwith to provide ſo many ſufficient Deputies as may neceſſarily be employed by you in the Affair committed to your management, and to aſſign and ſet out to them reſpectively ſuch proportion of your whole Charge as they may be able to perfect and compleat within the time preſcribed by the Acts to that purpoſe. And you are to take care to accommodate them with all things requiſite for the Work intended; and to ſatisfie your ſelf (as your Concerns do and will require) that your ſaid Deputies do underſtand the nature of their Imployment and procedure therein.

B.

And for your Indempnity, who are to ſecure the whole Receipt, (you being anſwerable for your Under-officers) you are to take ſuch Security from all your Deputies, that you may be able certainly to receive and pay in to the Exchequer all the Revenue ariſing by the ſaid Duty within your whole County, or Counties, and Places given you in charge, according to the times appointed in the Acts, that ſo His Majeſtie's publick Occaſions, whereunto it is deſigned, may not be diſappointed by the failer thereof.

C.

And having deputed any perſons to collect and levy the ſaid Duty, and given them Oath accordingly, you are (for the better ſatisfaction of the Country, and to prevent Deceit) to certifie to the Juſtices of the Peace for the County, or Counties, and Places within your Charge reſpectively, at their next Quarter Seſſions, the Names and Additions of

of the persons so deputed by you, therein signifying, that they, and every of them, have taken an Oath for the due performance of their Trust, according to the Laws enacted to that purpose: And in case of removal of any of your Deputies after such Certificate made, or of imploying any new Deputy or Deputies, you are from time to time to certifie such Alteration to the said Justices as aforesaid.

D.

Before you, or any of your Deputies, do demand the Duty in any Towns, Parishes, or Places, (except Cities or Market-towns) you or they are to send or deliver a printed or written Summons, to be read in the Church the Sunday following the delivery thereof, or to be forthwith communicated by the Constable, or other such like Officer, to the Inhabitants within his Division, signifying therein some convenient time after such intended publication, wherein you or some of your Deputies will be at the Town, Parish, or Place therein mentioned, in order to the receiving of

of His Majestie's Duty; that so persons may not be surprized by your sudden coming, but may have some reasonable time to provide the Duty, and in their absence to leave out the same.

E.

You are to take care that your Deputies do immediately proceed (with the assistance of the Constables, &c.) to the viewing and numbring of the several Fire-hearths and Stoves within any dwelling or other house, edifice, &c. which shall be within the respective Divisions allotted by you unto them respectively: wherein they are to make use of such helps, methods, Lists or former Views, as your self (having first received them by our Order) shall distribute to them, as useful, and in a good measure leading to the better understanding of the Work in their respective Districts: Yet so as the said Lists or Views neither, are nor can be binding Rules to them, (who are and must act upon Oath) nor be relied upon or credited, further than they shall be found (by the view of your self or your Deputies) to have

have been justly and truly taken as the Law requires. And if it shall appear that any Parishes, Towns, Villages, Hamletts, places or houses, in any of their allotted Divisions, are omitted in the said Lists or Views, or any new Chimneys chargeable by Law have been since erected, care is to be taken to insert them in their proper places; and all other neglects, faileurs, or mistakes which shall be found in the said old Lists or Views, are to be rectified in your respective Views accordingly, upon and according to which new Views you and your Deputies are then to demand and receive two half yeares Duties due unto His Majesty, ending upon the 25 day of *March* 1670.

F.

You and your respective Deputies are in the taking of the names of the Inhabitants in each Parish, Town or Place, (with the number of Hearths in each house) to enter them as they lie most contiguous, whereby the said Duty may be more easily collected, inscribing all

empty houſes and their number of Hearths in their due places, with the names of the perſons who by the Law are chargeable with the Duty for them.

G.

Having perfected the View of any Pariſh, Town, Conſtablery, Tything or Borrough, the ſame is to be fairly tranſcribed, according to the Method now delivered unto you, and (being ſigned by your Deputy who made ſuch View, and by the Conſtable, Headburtough, Tything-man, or ſuch like Officer who aſſiſted therein) the ſame is to be ſafely kept, till the whole Hundred, Wapentake, or other Diviſion, be ſo viewed, ſigned and compleated; and then you are to take them into your own cuſtody, till the whole County and places committed to your care be finiſhed: at which time you are forthwith to deliver, or cauſe to be delivered, the intire Views ſo taken and ſigned, (keeping Duplicates of them to be ready for His Majeſties ſervice upon all occaſions,

occasions,) together with a Certificate under your hand annexed, purporting that those are the Views taken in pursuance of the Act of Parliament in that behalf, unto the respective Clerks of the Peace for the Counties, or for the Cities and Towns, and Counties of the Cities and Towns respectively; that so the said Clerks of the Peace may proceed upon such Lists or Views, as they are by Law enjoyned and required.

H.

And you are to pay unto the said Clerks of the Peace one peny in the pound, for all such moneys as you or any of your Deputies shall receive for one whole years Duty due and ending upon the 25. day of *March* 1670. within the Counties and places to which such Clerks of the Peace do respectively belong, and thence forward, according to the direction of the Acts: and also to such Constables, Tything-men, and other such like Officers, who shall readily assist you and your Deputies in viewing, numbring, levying and collecting

ting the ſaid Duty, two pence in the pound, for ſo much money as ſhall be collected by them or any of them, or by and with their reſpective perſonal aſſiſtance: Taking from the ſaid Clerks of the Peace, and other ſuch Officers reſpectively, diſtinct Acquittances under their hands, for ſo much as ſhall be ſo paid unto them, in order to the allowance thereof upon your Accompt.

I.

And you and your Deputies are to uſe your utmoſt diligence and diſcretion in the diſcharge of this truſt, and to take ſpecial care, that the growing Revenue be duly collected and paid into His Majeſties Receipt or Exchequer, as by the ſaid Acts is directed, without your detaining or otherwiſe diſpoſing of any part thereof, which will be eſteemed criminal, and ſeverely puniſhed. As, on the contrary, we ſhall take into conſideration any extraordinary care & induſtry which ſhall be uſed in the improving of His Majeſties

ſaid

said Revenue, and speedy paying in of the moneys collected thereupon.

K.

ıd forasmuch as His Majesties profit ghly concerned in the collection of ıid Duty; all Justices of Peace and Magistrates, Constables and other Majesties Officers, within their seve- limits and Jurisdictions, are authori- ad required to give you and your re- ve Deputies assistance from time to- in the due execution of your trusts. ll such Justices and Clerks of the e, chief Magistrates, Town-Clerks, ffs, Constables, and other His Ma- s Officers, who shall readily give assistance for the better settlement of Revenue, and the regular and orderly ying thereof, shall from time to time y us represented to His Majesty, that hey may receive His Countenance and robation of their good service therein

ting the ſaid Duty, two pence in the pound, for ſo much money as ſhall be collected by them or any of them, and with their reſpective perſona ſtance: Taking from the ſaid C of the Peace, and other ſuch Of reſpectively, diſtinct Acquittances der their hands, for ſo much as be ſo paid unto them, in orde the allowance thereof upon your compt.

I.

And you and your Deputies are uſe your utmoſt diligence and diſc tion in the diſcharge of this truſt, and take ſpecial care, that the growi Revenue be duly collected and pa into His Majeſties Receipt or Exch quer, as by the ſaid Acts is directe without your detaining or otherwiſ diſpoſing of any part thereof, which will be eſteemed criminal, and ſevere- ly puniſhed. As, on the contrary, we ſhall take into conſideration any extra- ordinary care & induſtry which ſhall be uſed in the improving of His Majeſties

ſaid

ſaid Revenue, and ſpeedy paying in of the moneys collected thereupon.

K.

And forasmuch as His Majeſties profit is highly concerned in the collection of the ſaid Duty; all Juſtices of Peace and chief Magiſtrates, Conſtables and other His Majeſties Officers, within their ſeverall Limits and Juriſdictions, are authorized and required to give you and your reſpective Deputies aſſiſtance from time to time in the due execution of your truſts. And all ſuch Juſtices and Clerks of the Peace, chief Magiſtrates, Town-Clerks, Sheriffs, Conſtables, and other His Majeſties Officers, who ſhall readily give their aſſiſtance for the better ſettlement of this Revenue, and the regular and orderly Levying thereof, ſhall from time to time be by us repreſented to His Majeſty, that ſo they may receive His Countenance and approbation of their good ſervice therein

L.

And you and your Deputies are so to demean yourselves, that you may avoid all just occasion of Offence, that so by your discreet behaviour this Affair (wherein His Majesties Advantage is so greatly concerned) may be the better advanced and carried on, and your selves also thereby freed from Complaint.

M.

And you are to take notice, that in case His Majesty shall be hereafter induced & advised again to Farm out this Duty, by reason of the neglect of His Officers in the due Collecting and answering thereof, His Majesty is resolved that no such Officer shall ever be admitted to Farm any part thereof, nor to receive any benefit thereby.

N

N.

And Lastly, you and your Deputies are to execute and perform all other the Powers and things comprised in the said several Acts, for the Collecting and Levying of the said Revenue, according to the tenor and direction of the said Acts, and of these Instructions, and from time to time to give a true accompt of your doings and proceedings therein (and of such moneys as you shall at any time pay or return to be paid into His Majesties Exchequer) to Us, or to such persons as shall be from time to time appointed to correspond with, and to communicate our Orders and Directions to you, for the more ease and ready signification of our pleasures therein, with whom you are hereby ordered and required to keep such constant correspondency as may give them certainty where to direct, and

nd how to convey Letters to you upon all occasions.

We have perused these INSTRUCTIONS, *and do conceive them to be according to Law, and that it is expedient for His* MAJESTIE's *Service they should be pursued.*

Heneage Finch

Fra: North.

Assi
you
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3. In Surveying a
it neceſſary) you ſha
other Publick Office
4. In all Places in
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each Fire-Hearth
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co

These INSTRUCTIONS *being allowed and approved by His* MAJESTIE's *Councel learned in the Law, we direct that they be pursued.*

Treasury Chamber,
19 of April 1670.

Ashley.
T. Clifford.
Jo. Duncombe.

Mrs John Delahay
his bo[illegible] This 8
years

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